

Pelham Energy Committee Minutes

April 3, 2018

Called to order: 7:35 pm

History Room, Pelham Community Center

Present: Stan Swiercz, Alisa Pearson, Tony Rogers, Peter Helper, John Larsen

Notetaker: John Larsen

1. Minutes from previous meeting: Approved unanimously
2. Community Choice Energy (CCE) Warrant Article
 - Slate article:
 - Discussion - Upon review of the latest draft of the article for the Slate Tony raised a good point that we should provide some context and history as to where the town currently stands after 20 years since giving the Select Board the authority to engage in a municipal aggregation contract. Alisa noted that the Slate article is long and can't get longer.
 - Committee agreed to remove historical component and put key messages at the top. Stan will rework and circulate a new draft. Deadline for final is April 12.
 - Committee voted to approve Slate article with revisions
 - Outreach for April 24 presentation
 - NextDoor platform? - Targeted to just Pelham users. Alisa proposed each week with approved language and that John, Tony and then Alisa each post once. The message will include a link to the presentation calendar appointment and possibly the Slate article. We will try and post the final text from the Slate article on the meeting calendar appointment to provide more info.
 - Mailing lists – Send one message over each list.
 - John will send over the West Pelham List
 - Tony will send over the North Valley List
 - Ask Caitlin to consider sending over the Amherst Moms List
 - Stan will ask Abbie Jenks about outreach
 - The committee discussed the need for some sort of central municipal email list.
 - Direct engagement
 - Engage active town meeting members to invite them to the April 24 presentation
 - Pelham School
 - John will inquire about posting in the Pelham Press
 - 2 pager on CCE
 - Its on Google Doc for review
2. Solar hot water challenge
 - Stan got in touch with HCG. We have a small budget to get things promoted. Stan is learning what it's going to cost.

- Meet the Installer Event scheduling.
 - May 8 at 6:30 was proposed. Stan will see if Spartan Solar can do it.
 - Materials and outreach strategy will be similar to CCE outreach
3. Initiative Updates
- Community center HVAC
 - Discussion – Tony says there is need to get sensors in place to get a better read on how the building is actually functioning. Tony will come up with a plan and present at the next meeting.
 - META Grant / Elementary School Pavilion
 - Stan reports that yes we can use the META grant for design of possible solar PV!
 - School is looking at installing a 20X20 foot pavilion on the school playground using CPA funds.
 - We could use the META grant to pay for solar design as an add on to the pavilion.
 - Pavilion CPA warrant article does not include solar but an amendment could be put forward on the floor of town meeting.
 - School roof is currently not strong enough to handle PV
 - CCE update
 - UMASS students working for the Clean Energy Extension are conducting solar potential study
 - Looking at business models for PV and EE
 - Paul Fenn is holding a meeting on Tuesday to talk about developing a think tank focused on CCE
 - MVP meeting
 - Workshop Saturday, April 21 all day
 - Elementary school engagement
 - On hold til post-town meeting
4. Next meeting: April 10, 2018 7:30pm Ramsdell Room
5. Motion to Adjourn unanimously approved 8:58